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September 16, 2002

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 02-

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

Enclosed for filing on behalf of Bay State Gas Company ("Bay State" or the "Company") are an original and eight (8) copies of a Petition for Approval of a Gas Sales Agreement ("Sales Agreement") entered into with EnCana Corporation ("EnCana"). A filing fee of \$15.00 is also enclosed.

The Petition includes the prefiled testimony and exhibits of Francisco C. DaFonte, a copy of the Sales Agreement as well as two related agreements, an Agency Agreement and a Management Services Agreement, entered into with Northeast Gas Markets ("NEGM"). These agreements are the result of an RFP process conducted by NEGM on behalf of Boundary Gas Inc. ("BGI"), a consortium of northeast gas companies that includes Bay State. The RFP sought replacement supplies for the existing BGI gas supply arrangement, which is due to expire January 15, 2003. Bay State respectfully requests that the pricing provisions of the Sales Agreement and certain supporting documentation be deemed confidential and unavailable for public view pursuant to M.G.L. c. 25, § 5D. A Motion for Protective Order concerning these materials is enclosed. Unredacted copies of these documents are being provided to the Department's Gas Division. Because the terms of the Gas Supply Agreement require regulatory approval by November 1, 2002, Bay State respectfully requests that the Department expedite its review of this filing.

Please date stamp a copy of this letter for our files.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John A. DeTore". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "DeTore" clearly distinguishable.

John A. DeTore

Enclosures

Cc: George Yiankos, Director, Gas Division
Joseph Rogers, Assistant Attorney General (redacted copy)